Name of the Company	Number of retail outlets
Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	254
IBP Co. Ltd.	124

(b) to (d) There are 37 retail outlets being operated as COCO by the oil marketing companies through Labour Contractors in the different districts of Gujarat.

As per the existing policy, as and when a regular dealer is selected by the Dealer Selection Board, the RO being run on COCO basis is handed over to the dealer-select.

Opening up of New Petrol Pump near Baijrao, Pauri Garhwal

275. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are few petrol pumps on the Muradabad-Tehri Raj Marg and no petrol pump in the hill region between Ramnagar and Baijrao particularly;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to open a petrol pump near Baijrao, Pauri Garhwal on the said State highway;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any feasibility survey has been carried out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) There are 20 retail outlets in operation on the Muradabad-Tehri Raj Marg. There is no retail outlet in operation in the hill region between Ramnagar and Baijrao.

(d) A feasibility study of the location Baijrao was conducted and it was found unviable.

Scarcity of CNG distributors

†276. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is still a scarcity of CNG distributors in thecountry;___

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†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether people are facing a lot of troubles as a result thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government are going to take steps to increase their number; and

(d) if so, what steps are likely to be taken and by when and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Distribution of CNG is being done by the Indraprastha Gas Limited in the city of Delhi, Mahanagar Gas Limited in the city of Mumbai and Gujarat Gas Limited in few cities of Gujarat. As such there are no independent distributors to distribute CNG in these cities. CNG supplies to cities would not be possible in the absence of pipeline and hence the number of cities covered at present are limited. Wherever there are arrangements for CNG supplies, streamlining the supply management is constantly done so that consumers are not affected.

(d) Steps are being taken to convert all daughter stations to daughter-booster stations by installing booster compressor at all of them and as such the number of daugher-booster stations is expected to be fifty by December' 2001.

Discontinuance of Oil Exploration survey works in Orissa

277. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have already stopped the oil exploration survey work in Mahanadi and other areas in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, whether the survey work has already been completed and if so, what is the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir. Prior to announcement of NELP by Government of India, Oil India Limited had acquired 14248 line kms of 2D and 3343 line kms of 3D seismic data, 3178 line kms of